

LOCAL ITEMS

About Our Town and Its People

Wilbur Simons, who has been in the army, stationed at Vancouver, Washington, arrived home Saturday night, hale and hearty and glad to be back home. The kid is looking good and appears as if army life out in the woods had agreed with him.

Orval D. (Candy) Backus of Camp Custer, arrived home on a Christmas furlough Saturday night and is enjoying himself with his family and numerous friends for a few days.

Mrs. Lena McCubrey feels very good over the fact that the Chas. Peasley family, which she nursed during the time they had the flu, are again up and around. This is the result of the good care which Mrs. McCubrey gave them. She makes a specialty of taking hard cases in the nursing line.

Miss Rosina Bignell, who is employed as a teacher in the schools at Cavalier, North Dakota, is home for her Christmas vacation and until she gets notice that the flu ban there is raised and that the schools will again open up.

Mrs. G. O. Bignell went to McBrides to visit her daughter, Mrs. Tom Skelenger until after Christmas.

Mrs. S. Finch left for Greenville Monday to visit her daughter, Mrs. Stevenson.

Mrs. V. Luce was in Greenville on business Monday.

Mrs. E. Sped left for Rockford on Monday to spend the holidays with her son.

A large shipment of Rheuma has been received by Wortley & French, so that all rheumatism sufferers can be supplied promptly in future. Money back if it fails. Advertisement.

Mrs. John Ferris, mother of former Governor Woodbridge N. Ferris, is dead at the old family home at Spencer, N. Y. She was 83 years old. Mr. Ferris went there from Pennsylvania where he was on a teachers' institute tour.

Mrs. Melissa Cobb went to Grand Rapids, Monday to visit for a time with her son, A. R. Hull and family.

Frank Clarke made a business trip to Edmore, Monday morning.

Our old friend, Vern C. Divine and family, of Chicago, came into town right in the middle of a merry shower of rain drops Saturday night for an ever holiday visit at the home of his mother, Mrs. Eva N. Divine and with Mrs. Divine's parents, Westmaster and Mrs. W. F. Bricker. While here Vern's many friends can find him behind the counters in the Frisbie & Divine stores—his first and old love, where he started in his business career.



WILL MAKE EFFORT TO RETAIN OLD CITY CHARTER

CLAIM IS MADE BY SOME THAT NEW CHARTER WOULD NOT BE LAWFUL

Considerable talk has been heard regarding the legality of the new charter and under which Belding's new commission administration will take up its duties on January 1, 1919, at which time the old council, consisting of Mayor Pales and the six aldermen, two from each ward, will step down and out of office unless the injunction which is hinted at, is secured to keep the incoming commissions from taking office at the time the new charter provides, January 1.

Little credit had been given to the talk which had been going around that the charter was illegal and that it would not stand if an attack were made upon it to keep it from going into effect. At a meeting which was held in this city Saturday by a number of persons interested, it was decided to go ahead and knock out the new charter and continue along with the old one until a proper revision could be made, a matter which it is alleged the charter commissions were elected to do instead of framing an entire new charter and an entirely new form of city government. Some of the city officials are behind the movement to keep the charter from taking effect but they refused to be quoted definitely and refused to divulge the plan of action until the proper time.

It is claimed that the new charter after having been signed and approved by the governor of the state, should have been on file in the city clerk's office for a period of not less than 90 days, a fact, which it is alleged was not complied with. It is also alleged by others, that the election was illegal because of a number of irregularities in the calling, postponing and holding of the election and that should some bond issue come up at some time in the future, the city might find itself up against a rather difficult proposition. For this reason the people interested in the defeating of the charter feel that the question might better be decided now as to just how legal the new arrangement is.

Should the plans be carried out as they are at present started, something definite must be done within a short time and whatever steps are taken will be reported in these columns.

PLAN TO KEEP PLANTING MORE BLACK WALNUTS

ESSENTIAL WOOD MAY BE NEEDED IN FUTURE—WAR HAS DEPLETED SUPPLY.

East Lansing, Mich., Dec. 23.—The planting of a few black walnuts in every woodlot in the state is immediately necessary if the nation is to be assured in the future of a supply of this essential wood, according to Prof. A. K. Chittenden, head of the school of forestry at M. A. C. The available reserve of blacknut, Prof. Chittenden said, was dangerously depleted during the war.

"Black walnut is much used for airplane parts, for gun stocks and for other military purposes," he explained. "In consequence our black walnut supplies have run low. Inasmuch as it requires a long time for this timber to grow, immediate replanting should be practiced wherever any black walnut has been removed, as insurance for the future.

"The nuts should be planted in the fall or winter, when the soil begins to freeze. If planted too early the squirrels are liable to dig them up if planted in the late fall or early winter the freezing and thawing of the soil will break the walnut shells as nature intended they should be broken."

GIVES GARAGE TO WAR RELIEF

American General Turns Over Commodious Barn to Salvation Army.

New York, Nov. 3.—How an American General gave up his garage at that it might be converted into a Salvation Army hut somewhere in the Toul sector, is told in an interesting letter received at the headquarters of the United War Work Campaign, No. 60 Vanderbilt Avenue, New York City, from a Salvationist in France.

When Staff Captain Coe and Adjutant Case reached A— in the Toul sector, some five hundred French soldiers, who had been gassed a short while before, were being removed from the dismantled war. The appearance of the Salvationists was greeted with cheers by the troops, and they were offered chow and quarters without delay. "The only place available to them for use as a Salvation Army hut was a commodious barn, which was used by its commanding general and his staff as a garage.

The Salvationists sought the general's headquarters, determined to obtain possession of the barn at any cost. "What can I do for you?" asked the general smilingly. "We need your garage," responded Captain Coe. "The barn is yours," answered the general.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By REV. P. R. FLETCHER, D. D., Teacher of English Bible in the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.

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LESSON FOR DECEMBER 29

JOSEPH CARES FOR HIS KIN-DRED.

LESSON TEXT—Genesis 41:1-13. GOLDEN TEXT—Honor thy father and mother—Exodus 20:12.

DEVOTIONAL READING—Psalms 137:1-6. ADDITIONAL MATERIAL—Genesis 41:14-57.

Since we took the birth of the Savior for our Christmas lesson, today, instead of a review, we will go back and take up the alternative lesson for December 22. It will be more profitable to complete the study of Joseph in his attitude toward his kindred than to undertake the review.

I. Joseph Sends to Canaan for His Father (41:17-28).

After Joseph had made himself known to his brethren he sent them back to his father in Canaan with the good news not only that he was alive, but that the Lord had exalted him to be lord over all Egypt, and that his father and brethren with their families should come down to Egypt where he would give them the best of the land and that they should eat of the "fat of the land." This illustrates how one day Jesus Christ shall disclose his identity to his brethren the Jews, and that his exaltation at the right hand of the Father was to make preparation for them against the awful day of trial which shall be visited upon them (Acts 3:19-21).

II. Joseph Meets His Father in the Land of Goshen (41:29-34).

Jacob experienced a double delight—that of seeing his beloved son whom he had long mourned as dead, and of being welcomed to the new and strange land by its prime minister. Joseph instructed his father and brethren how to place their request before Pharaoh. Since their occupation was that of shepherds he knew that some tact should be employed in their approach to the king, for "every shepherd is an abomination unto the Egyptians."

III. Jacob and Five Sons Presented to Pharaoh (41:1-7).

Though Joseph was high in authority he was not ashamed to bring his father and brethren into the presence of the great Pharaoh, even though they were humble farmers.

1. Pharaoh's Question (vv. 3, 4). He inquired as to their occupation. They answered that both they and their father were shepherds. They went a little beyond what they were asked by Pharaoh and instructed to do by Joseph. They requested the land of Goshen, for they knew it was a good place for pasture for their flocks.

2. Pharaoh's Instructions to Joseph (vv. 5, 6). He told him to make his father and brethren dwell in the best of the land—even Goshen, and that if he knew of any men of ability among them to give them the charge of his cattle. He assumed that since Joseph was so capable and trustworthy that some of his brethren would also possess suitable qualifications of administration.

IV. Jacob Blessed Pharaoh (41:7-10).

Though Jacob was a pilgrim in Egypt, dependent upon Pharaoh even for food to eat, in the dignity of his faith of what God would do with him, and through him, he pronounced a blessing upon the great Egyptian king. The less is blessed by the greater (Hebrews 7:7). Though conscious of his place of superiority through the divine covenant he did not manifest officiousness, but rather the desire to convey a vital blessing. He recognized that he was the channel through which great blessings would come to Pharaoh, in accordance with the Abrahamic covenant (Genesis 12:1-3). Israel is one day to be the channel through which the blessings of salvation shall flow to the Gentile nations (Romans 11:12-15).

V. Joseph Nourished His Father and Brethren (41:11, 12).

According to the instructions of Pharaoh, Joseph placed his father and brethren in the best of the land and made provision for them. Jesus Christ will one day, when the famine of the great tribulation is exceeding sore, be reconciled to his brethren, the Jews, and will give them a possession in the best of the land and nourish them. Christ is now seated with the Father on his throne, and one day will reveal himself to his brethren the Jews and will feed them on the "fat of the land."

Jacob lived in Egypt 17 years. When the time of his death approached he exacted from Joseph a promise that he would bury him in Canaan. He blessed Joseph's sons and issued a prophecy concerning his own sons.

General Order No. 1.

It has been given as a binding order to every man worthy of the name and who respects the stamp put upon his being by God, his Father and Creator, never to become the slave of men. Bondage is the supreme shame and supreme misery for a man conscious of his nobility and divine origin.—Charles Wagner, in Christian Herald.

From Innermost Being. The things which come to us are not unrelated to us, but grow out from our own being.—Agnes Edwards.

BUY A. R. S.

The Light in the Clearing

A Tale of the North Country in the Time of Silas Wright

By IRVING BACHELLER

Author of "Eben Holden," "Dad and I," "Dad of the Blooded Horse," "Keeping Up With Linds," etc., etc.

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(Continued from Page Three)

There were tears in my eyes when I asked:

"They'll bring it back, won't they?"

"Never!" said Uncle Peabody. "I'm afraid they've got it up."

He had no sooner said it than a cry broke from my lips, and I sank down upon the grass moaning and sobbing. I lay amidst the ruins of the simple faith of childhood. It was as if the world and all its joys had come to an end.

Aunt Deed spoke in a low, kindly tone and came and lifted me to my feet very tenderly.

"Come, Bart, don't feel so about that old melon," said she, "it ain't worth it. Come with me. I'm going to give you a present—yes I be!"

I was still crying when she took me to her trunk, and offered the grateful assuagement of candy and a belt, all embroidered with blue and white beads.

"Now you see, Bart, how low and mean anybody is that takes what don't belong to 'em—ayes! They're snakes! Everybody hates 'em an' stamps on 'em when they come in sight—ayes!"

The abomination of the Lord was in her look and manner. How it shook my soul! He who had taken the watermelon had also taken from me something I was never to have again, and a very wonderful thing it was—faith in the goodness of men. My eyes had seen evil. The world had committed its first offense against me and my spirit was no longer the white and beautiful thing it had been. Still, therein is the beginning of wisdom and, looking down the long vista of the years, I thank God for the great harvest of the lost watermelon. Better things had come in its place—understanding and what more, often I have vainly tried to estimate. For one thing that sudden revelation of the heart of childhood had lifted my aunt's out of the cold storage of a puritanic spirit, and warmed it into new life and opened its door for me.

In the afternoon she sent me over to Willis' to borrow a little tea. I stopped for a few minutes to play with Henry Willis—a boy not quite a year older than I. While playing there I discovered a piece of the rind of my melon in the dooryard. On that piece of rind I saw the cross which I had made one day with my thumb-nail. It was intended to indicate that the melon was solely and wholly mine. I felt a flush of anger.

"I hate you," I said as I approached him.

"I hate you," he answered.

"You're a snake!" I said. What were the relations between Henry Willis and our own Barton Baynes in after years? The story will tell you all about them and many other highly interesting things. Do not fail to read each succeeding issue. (TO BE CONTINUED.)

HISTORY AND ORIGIN OF THE RED CROSS

(By Mary E. H. Coville.)

A few days ago I overheard a conversation they were wondering who started this Red Cross movement. I thought I would look the matter up and this is what I found.

When Florence Nightingale went to the Crimean war in 1858, with 300 women nurses and proved that civil service was absolutely necessary if those wounded in war were to be properly cared for, and proved also that much of the suffering attendant upon war is preventable the real Red Cross work began. But it was not until after a Swiss named Henri Dunant horror stricken at the condition of the wounded on the battlefield of Solferino in 1859 wrote a book pleading for relief, that a conference prepared and signed by 16 leading nations. The sanitary commission in our Civil war did grand service to the country but there was no accepted code and supplies for sick and wounded were not adequately protected and no previously trained workers available. In 1869 Miss Clara Barton, worn out with work for our soldiers, went abroad to rest, while in Switzerland she heard of the Geneva treaty and determined to do her utmost to have the United States join the international order, and when the Franco-Prussian war came on Miss Barton learned what the Red Cross really meant.

She said: "No record of needless inhumanity or cruelty to sick or wounded stands in the annals of that war. She walked its hospitals day and night, served in its camps, marched with its men. The heads of these great nations by delegates met and created one common sign for all military medical relief the world over and made all under that sign, safe and sacred. It has established one military hospital flag for all nations and has given the people the recognized right to reach and succor their wounded on the field. And the Germans are the first to ignore this Red Cross flag and fire on its hospitals. Miss Barton urged congress to join the Red Cross league but the treaty giving this was not finally adopted until March, 1901. She suggested a

RIVER RIDGE

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

Mr. and Mrs. Lew Shrader of near Greenville, were Thursday and Friday visitors of the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Antcliff.

Ernie Moore, of Traverse City, was the week end visitor of Wm. Bradley and family.

Jim Antcliff and Bert Antcliff and the latter's son, were visitors at Wm. Antcliff's, Saturday.

Miss Tanner and Lulu Morse were callers at Thos. Antcliff's Friday.

Blanche Farrar has recovered from the influenza.

Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Bidwell and John Fisher, who has just returned from Camp Custer, were Thursday evening callers on Thos. Antcliff.

Mr. and Mrs. George Hagadorn were in Belding Saturday, doing Christmas shopping.

George Antcliff, of Belding, spent Sunday with T. H. Antcliff.

Ira Parker called on Mr. Flanagan, near Orleans, Sunday.

The flu still seems to be raging in this vicinity.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Antcliff and Blanch were in Orleans, Monday, on business.

Merry Christmas

-is the greeting of this store to its patrons on this, the happiest day of the year, the happiest Christmas day in the history of the world. We all have more reason to be happy today—more thankful than ever before because of the great victory that has come to our men who have fought so valiantly for Democracy, for "peace on Earth good will toward Men."

And to them, through you, we extend the heartiest good wishes of the season.

Ed Lloyd

GREETING

We desire to take this opportunity of expressing our thanks to you for the business you have given us during the year just drawing to a close. Your patience and loyalty have been deeply appreciated. Government business is a thing of the past, and we wish to call your mind to the fact that we are again in a position to give your business that careful and prompt attention which you so desire and have a right to expect of us.

A Merry Christmas

and
A Happy New Year

To You All

T. Frank Ireland Co.

Yellow Front

"We Never Sleep"

AT O'BRYON'S

HOME MADE

XMAS CANDY

35c lb.

MIXED NUTS, WALNUTS, BOX CANDY, ETC.

LAST CHANCE

We give away the \$50.00 Liberty Bond on Saturday evening, December 28, 1918. Every \$1.00 cash purchase or \$1.00 paid on account gets you a coupon. Yours may be the lucky coupon.

Our stock is in fine shape yet—we can give you a nice selection in

Easy Chairs

Ladies Desks

Bedroom Furniture

Library Furniture

Dining-room Furniture

Pedestals

Davenport

China, Cut Glass

Silverware

Toys, Etc.

Be sure and get your coupons—put them in the big box before December 28, 1918.

BALLARD-LLOYD CO.

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